

America Recycles Markets Workgroup Steering Committee Meeting

Resource Recycling Conference 2019

Monday, August 26, 2019, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM (CT)

Sheraton New Orleans, Poydras Room

Purpose/Desired Outcomes:

- Review and discuss workgroup priority action –development of domestic markets toolkit.
- Determine next steps for steering committee and workgroup members to ensure delivery of priority action(s), announcements, and communications products for November Summit.
- Discuss recommended additional workgroup actions for inclusion in *National Framework for Advancing the U.S. Recycling System*, including the timeline for finalizing the actions and commitments in the Framework.

Agenda:

11:00-11:05 AM:	Welcome
11:05-11:40 AM:	Discussion of Markets workgroup priority action – development of domestic markets toolkit, including FAQs, contract best practices, and guidance for encouraging organizations to buy recycled and use recycled materials in products.
11:45-11:55 AM:	Discussion of November announcements, communications products, and additional workgroup activities for inclusion in National Framework (see Appendix).
11:55-12:00 PM:	Review and finalize schedule for delivery of workgroup priority action(s) and selection of future activities to be included in National Framework (see Appendix).

Appendix:

Summary of deliverables, announcements, and communications needs for November 2019 America Recycles Summit; recommended additional actions for inclusion in National Framework; and draft schedule of steering committee and workgroup next steps through November 2019.

Appendix: Summary of November Announcements, Communications Products, and Recommended Future Activities - *Markets Steering Committee Meeting*

Vision Statement

High-quality recycled materials are produced that can be incorporated easily into products, driving demand and creating an integrated, robust and sustainable domestic recycling market.

Product(s) and/or Announcements to be Released in November

Markets Workgroup Priority Actions

- Announce successful initiation of activities to spur market development across the country by EPA and NRC through the co-sponsorship of two workshops at the Resource Recycling Conference and State of Texas Alliance for Recycling Summit.
- Announce intent to develop and launch a “Buy Recycled” program, modeled after the Association of Plastics Recyclers Demand Champions Program, that could be applied to all materials in the recycling stream. The program would include development of a database to connect buyers and sellers of recyclable materials.
- Announce intent to develop a toolkit for governments, MRFs and associated facilities that includes FAQs, guidance on how to conduct cost vs. benefit analysis for investments, incremental and major enhancements, planning for future materials, and contracting best practices to ensure the capability to meet current and future needs.

Anticipated EPA Actions/Announcements

- Announce open comment period for Federal Register notice requesting comments on the recommended recycled content levels and products associated with the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG).
- Announce release of National Framework to Advance the U.S. Recycling System.
- Announce EPA will continue facilitating and providing logistical support for workgroup meetings and dialogues, including hosting future meetings to implement actions within the National Framework.
- Announce intent to work collaboratively with America Recycles Network to establish a national goal to increase recycling.
- Provide highlights related to the Innovation Fair exhibitors and/or attendance.
- Announce release of EPA publication featuring pledge signatory success stories.
- Announce release of EPA publication featuring Waste Wise Partner success stories in honor of 25th Anniversary.

Other Workgroup Member Actions/Announcements

- *[EPA is seeking input from Workgroup members on what can be included here]*

Communications Materials/Products for November Summit

- A 1-page front and back handout with graphics that describes the two workgroup actions listed above.
- National Framework to Advance the US Recycling System.
- EPA Publication featuring pledge signatory success stories.
- EPA Publication featuring 25th Anniversary of WasteWise partner success stories.

Recommended Additional/Future Actions for Inclusion in National Framework (for Discussion)

- Determine the success of the NRC-EPA workshops by assessing results and follow-up activities by participating states. Expand and host workshops in other parts of the country.
- Continue efforts to finalize elements of the Toolkit.
- Conduct and compile research on contracts, outreach strategies, financing opportunities, etc. to determine what is working well to better understand investment opportunities.
- Explore creation of incentives to encourage investment in recycling or find existing tax incentives that organizations could leverage to help materials recovery facilities (MRFs) evolve to meet the challenges posed by the evolving materials stream.

Draft Schedule for Completion and Task Assignments

Task	Lead	Deadline
Identify next-steps for development of a Buy Recycled program for multiple recycled materials and scope for developing economic resources	Steering Committee	8/26
Send to workgroup for review	Workgroup	9/2
Conference Call to further discuss/finalize future actions to be included in National Framework	Steering Committee	Mid-September
Conference Call with full workgroup to discuss future actions to be included in National Framework	Workgroup	Mid-September
Revise Buy Recycled program materials as necessary and identify who will complete specific tasks	Steering Committee	9/16
Circulate draft Framework for Workgroup review/comment	Workgroup	9/23
Develop a draft 1-pager summarizing the committee's progress and any key concepts	Steering Committee	9/23
Solicit feedback on 1-pager	Workgroup	9/30
Comments Requested on Framework Actions	Workgroup	10/7
Continue to make progress on November deliverables	Steering Committee	10/7
Send materials for printing	EPA	10/14